



Dartmouth
Heritage Museum
Society

Protecting, Promoting and Preserving our Heritage

Strategic Plan

2022-2027

INTRODUCTION:

The Dartmouth Heritage Museum (DHM) collection and infrastructure (Evergreen & Quaker Houses) are owned by Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM). Through the mechanism of a five-year Management and Operating Agreement (MOA, 2019 - 2024) between HRM and the Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society (DHMS), the Society utilizes the collection and infrastructure to interpret and celebrate local heritage.

This Strategic Plan articulates the goals and priorities of the Society for a five-year period. Its formulation is a collaborative effort involving Society members and museum staff.



Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society

Our Guiding Principles: Vision and Mission

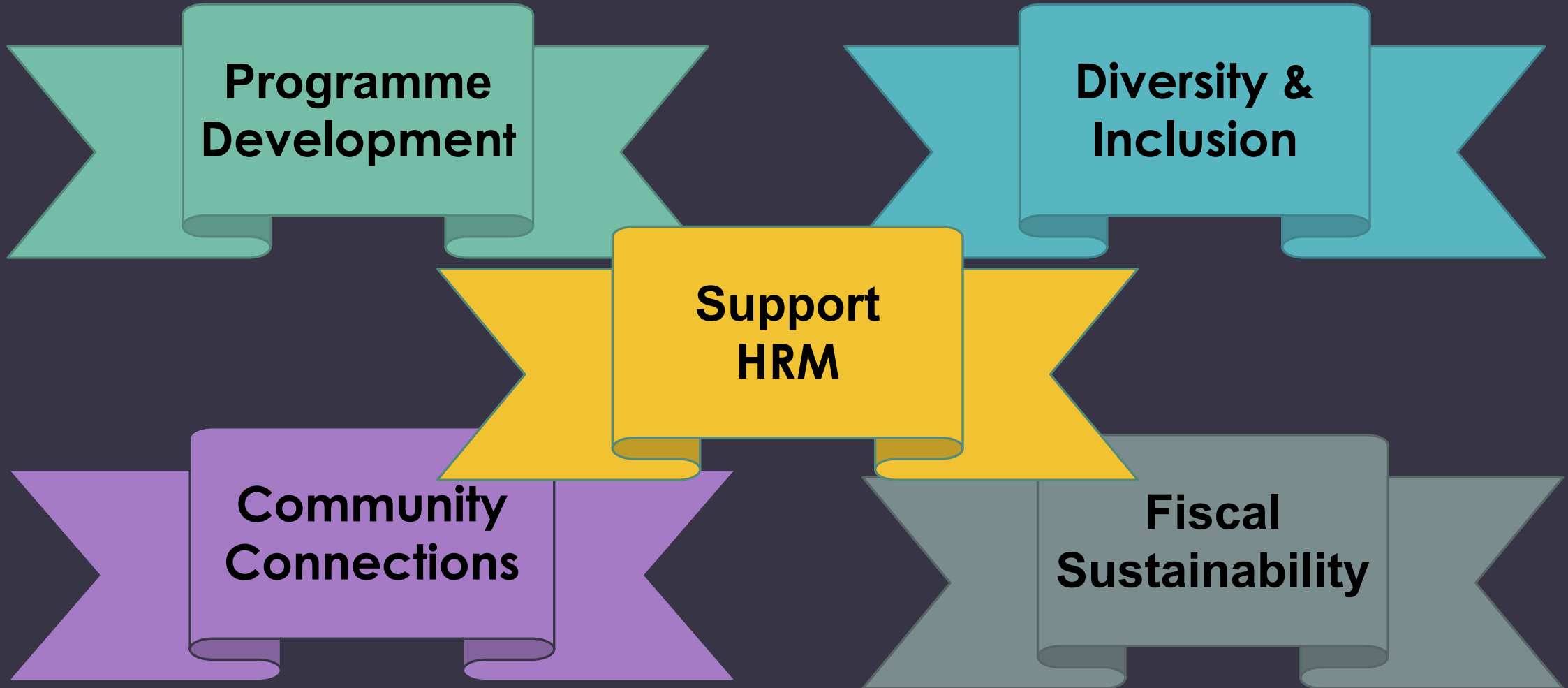
Vision

...by 2030 we envision a fully-accredited and vibrant HRM community museum housed in a facility supporting research, development and display of thought-provoking interpretive programmes. Achievement of this vision requires collaborative partnership with the Halifax Regional Municipality and engagement with the Dartmouth community

Mission

...to inform the public. Our programming will help frame an understanding of past choices, present circumstances, and future possibilities. We commit to engagement, education, and story-telling

Our Strategic Goals:



Programme Development

Objective:

- Development of innovative, accessible and culturally desirable programmes of interest to the different age groups and diverse audiences that make up our community, including Indigenous, Black, racialized, ethnic, religious and other historically under-represented groups

Strategies & Opportunities:

- Provide thought-provoking learning opportunities and stimulating cultural experiences
- Update interpretive literature and material to include contemporary delivery options
- Develop programmes that leverage existing infrastructure and collection content
- Encourage use of Evergreen and Quaker Houses for public workshops and events

Diversity & Inclusion

Objective:

- Foster diversity and inclusion in all facets of museum programming and related activity

Strategies & Opportunities:

- Develop relationships with Indigenous, Black, racialized, minority, ethnic, religious and other under-represented groups comprising the Dartmouth community
- Ensure interpretive programmes acknowledge and reflect the existence and contributions of these groups
- Provide diversity and inclusion education opportunities for staff and volunteers

Community Connections

Objective:

- Develop and strengthen community relationships, with particular emphasis on outreach to and active collaboration with local heritage organizations

Strategies & Opportunities:

- An active campaign of community outreach and engagement focused on:
 - Indigenous, racialized, minority, ethnic, religious and under-represented groups
 - Dartmouth community societies, organizations and institutions
 - Provincial and regional heritage organizations
 - Public and private schools
 - The business community

Fiscal Sustainability

Objective:

- Establishment of a comprehensive and affordable Business Plan integrated with this Strategic Plan, supported through stable and adequately apportioned year-over-year funding from multiple sources

Strategies & Opportunities:

- Engagement with charitable foundations, the business community and private donors
- Negotiation with HRM for adequate long-term fiscal support to the multi-year MOA
- Continued effort to ensure Community Museum Assistance Programme funding
- Engagement with other grant-dispensing federal/provincial programmes
- On a case-by-case basis, monetization of select programme activities
- Employment of volunteers to augment full-time paid museum staff

Support HRM

Objective:

- Support HRM culture and heritage (C & H) objectives while simultaneously striving to comply with HR policies

Strategies & Opportunities:

- Develop exhibits synonymous with and supportive of HRM C & H objectives
- Contribute to realization of HRMs integrated regional museum strategy
- Support HRM collection management and maintenance activity
- Harmonize HRM and DHMS HR and remuneration policies

Realizing Strategic Goals:

2022-27 CONSTRAINTS:

- (1) New infrastructure is highly unlikely (maintaining what exists is a challenge)
- (2) When approved, a new facility will be HRM focused, NOT a 'DHM' replacement
- (3) HRM Parks & Rec cultural staff support will not increase appreciably
- (4) HRM Parks & Rec budgetary constraints will not markedly ease



Realizing Strategic Goals:

2022-27 ENABLERS OF SUCCESS:

- (1) Cooperation and collaboration with HRM
- (2) Four (4) full-time professional staff
(Mgr-Curator + Collection Mgr + 2)
- (3) Community volunteer support
- (4) Increased MOA funding envelope;
\$100K/yr allocation to 2024 is insufficient
***Minimum to sustain four staff and
non-discretionary aspects of MOA
programme is \$165K/year***

